



Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2021

Planning Authority: Roscommon County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: PD/21/216

Appeal by Vodafone Ireland Limited care of Towercom Limited of Usher House, Main Street, Dundrum, Dublin against the decision made on the 18th day of January, 2022 by Roscommon County Council to refuse permission.

Proposed Development: Removal of an existing 10-metre telecommunications support structure (overall height 12.5 metres) together with telecommunications equipment on it and replacement with a new 30-metre telecommunications support structure (overall height of 31.5 metres) carrying relocated existing antenna and additional antennas, dishes, associated equipment, together with ground-based equipment cabinets and new fencing for wireless data and broadband services, all at Eir Exchange, L6404 Road, Dundermot, Ballymoe, County Roscommon.

Decision

REFUSE permission for the above proposed development for the reasons and considerations set out below.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to:

- (a) the height and scale of the proposed development, which substantially exceeds that of the existing structure,
- (b) the location of the proposed development in the Castlerea and Upper Suck Valley Landscape Character Area, where the area is designated of 'High Value' and alongside a designated tourist route,
- (c) the lack of clarity regarding the potential for co-location on alternative telecommunications structures in the area and the demand for co-location on the proposed structure, and
- (d) the guidelines relating to Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government to planning authorities in July 1996,

it is considered that the proposed development would be visually obtrusive in a sensitive landscape, would set an inappropriate precedent for the proliferation of telecommunications structures, and would be contrary to the policies of the Roscommon County Development Plan 2022-2028 in respect of landscape character areas and telecommunications (Policy Objectives NH 10.25, ITC 7.63, ITC 7.65 and ITC 7.66). The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.



Eamonn James Kelly

Member of An Bord Pleanála

duly authorised to authenticate

the seal of the Board.

Dated this 7th day of June 2023.

ESK